*Friday, October 1, 2010*

**High Expectation**

Romans 5:3-5 And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; (4) And patience, experience; and experience, hope: (5) And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us. (KJV)

Some of the definitions for the word ‘hope’ refer to a confident expectation of good, as well as eternal life. Do know that as you continue to seek and find out what your purpose is for being here on planet earth, there is an enemy out and about doing all that he can to keep you from finding this truth that will set you free. All of us who choose to live a godly life shall suffer persecution for it; now it’s a matter of how to handle these situations and come out of them victorious as well.

Mark 4:16-19 And these are they likewise which are sown on stony ground; who, when they have heard the word, immediately receive it with gladness; (17) And have no root in themselves, and so endure but for a time: afterward, when affliction or persecution ariseth for the word's sake, immediately they are offended. (18) And these are they which are sown among thorns; such as hear the word, (19) And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful. (KJV)

You ever hear of fair weather friends; or for those that have riches, many of the hanger-ons looking for a handout? Many Christians are fickle like that, they are all in concerning the blessings as we see clearly illustrated by the many bless me clubs that we now have in the name of the so called church. However, these same many are no shows when it’s time for roll call or when the weather changes and the going gets a bit rough. The Lord is our only hope, our only expectation of deliverance from this present evil world, and He expects us to stay delivered despite the storms and winds of doctrines that are blowing throughout this fallen realm.

James 1:25-27 But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed. (26) If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain. (27) Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world. (KJV)

Given the fact that our God sent a perfect example for us to follow in the form of His Son, who then delivered a perfect sacrifice that was acceptable to God, He now expects His people to keep themselves pure and unspotted from the things of this life. If you notice, the wardrobe in heaven is pure and clean. Only those that show up and stand before the Lord pure and clean are going to receive their robe of righteousness as well.

Colossians 1:26-28 Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: (27) To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: (28) Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus: (KJV)

The things of God and His plan and purpose for His people is described as a mystery, something hidden, yet now revealed to His people. The key is that it is only revealed and seen by Spiritual people, those who know who their only hope of glory is and what name He expects His people to preach and teach, thus making them perfect or mature concerning God’s plan of salvation.

1 Peter 1:18-21 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; (19) But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: (20) Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you, (21) Who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God. (KJV)

You know, while mankind keeps peddling the things of God and putting a price tag on them, which is why it is referred to as being corruptible, there is still a few, a remnant that know who they are in Christ and what He expects of us as His ambassadors. If your faith and hope is in anything other than God then you won’t meet or live up to His high expectation that He has for you. However, if you are willing to turn your life over to someone who planned a path and purpose for you before the foundation of the world, then you will find our Father waiting to crown you with an eternal crown of life.